

# WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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THE SWEEP: "Oh no Sir, That 'ere Socialism's no good ter me. I'm a White Australian, I am. Thank yer kindly Sir."

## SLAVERY AGAIN.

Written for "The International Socialist"  
by K. N. Pepper.

Air . . . . . "Slavery Days."

I am thinking to-day  
Of the curse that shall not stay—  
The Conscription Act of Fisher and the Trust!  
They instruct each worker's boy  
How to murder and destroy,  
And to blast his striking comrades into dust!

### Chorus.

Oh, the infamy and shame!  
It is done in Labor's name  
By the Party that does anything for pay!  
And every night and morn  
We shall wish our sons unborn  
In these "Labor" jingo military days.

### It is slavery again.

With its infamy and pain,  
For our sons by "Labor" traitors have been sold,  
And by law are now compelled  
To be shot and stabbed and shelled  
That the War Trust may increase its hoard of gold!

### —Chorus.

When our children leave the schools  
They become the War Trust's tools  
To defend the land and wealth of those who rob;  
From each workshop, mill and mine  
Boys are driven out like swine,  
To be butchered by the Plutocratic Mob!

### —Chorus.

They have robbed the voteless boys  
Of their playtime and its joys,  
And deprived them of their liberty and right;  
And by brutal human hogs  
Boys are trained and cursed like dogs  
To prepare for future fratricidal fights!

### —Chorus.

When our sturdy sons have grown,  
They no longer are our own!  
They've been bartered to the War Trust, and are  
slaves!  
Who, when wholesale murders pay,  
Will be ordered out to slay,  
By the Gang that robs the cots to fill the graves!

### —Chorus.

They will ship boys o'er the main,  
There to slay or there be slain  
By the workers whom warmongers eke cowree,  
And who, much against their will,  
Are compelled to shoot and kill,  
That each vampire in the Trust may fill his purse.

### —Chorus.

In the chilly winter's flood  
Boys will shed each other's blood,  
And destroy like frenzied devils loosed in hell,  
Whilst each statesman, parson, priest,  
Safe at home enjoys the feast  
That's provided by the murder tools they sell!

### —Chorus.

When shall workers all awake  
And this rolling planet take  
From the parasites whose thefts and wars cause  
death?

When shall Truth and Freedom rise,  
And all workers fraternise,  
And abolish war forever from the earth?

## The Passing Show.

"Politics should be something more than  
a question of who can bribe the hardest."  
—Joe Cook. But what would become of the  
old parties if bribery was cut out?

On July 12 the Orangemen of Sydney  
celebrated the "Battle of the Boyne." The  
Town Hall was packed, and after the  
gathering had sung, "Come Thou Fount  
of Every Blessing," the orators proceeded  
to scarify their Catholic fellow-Christians.  
It is a pathetic world.

When shall we have done with the pa-  
tience of the fool, and acquire the courage  
to destroy the fetish of tradition?

The New York Supreme Court has de-  
cided that the commercialised use of pray-  
er by "Christian Scientists" for the avowed  
purpose of treating sick persons is illegal.  
Prayers for rain, war, and thanksgiving  
are not yet banned.

When Carpentier, the French slugger,  
defeated Smith, the Yankee stouch artist,  
members of the British House of Commons  
stood up in their places in the House and  
cheered for several minutes. It was such  
an important event, you know.

"If only a general election could be  
fought without mud-throwing, what an  
advantage it would be."—The Sydney  
"Daily Telegraph"—a champion mud-  
thrower.

Waiting for the capitalist system to be  
changed by Labor legislation in the direc-  
tion of State capitalism, is like a drowning  
kitten, with a heavy brick tied to its neck,  
waiting for the brick to "evolve" into a  
lifebuoy.

"Law grinds the poor, and the rich men  
rule the law."—Goldsmith. This is why  
the rich are so particular in upholding the  
law.

The idol of the Maffickers, Baden-Pow-  
ell, in a letter appealing for funds for his  
movement, testifies to the injustice work-  
ers are foolish enough to tolerate, and  
which inflicts immeasurable injury upon  
their children. He says:—

"In the slums of our great industrial  
centres thousands of poor class boys are  
never given a chance to start fair in the  
race for life, but are left to drift into  
unemployableness and misery without a  
hand to help them. Yet they are human,  
and could be made into good citizens  
and valuable assets to the nation."

The Boy Scout movement is but a red  
herring. The workers themselves must  
wake up and see that their boys get a fair  
chance. To leave them to the tender mer-  
cies of the capitalist exploiter and the mili-  
tary swashbuckler is to doom them to life-  
long perdition.

Don't be misled by politicians and press  
writers who babble about "our National  
wealth." The wealth of the few who profit  
by the sale of poisoned foods, rack-renting,  
and labor-skimming, cannot reasonably be  
styled "national wealth."

The man who votes the old party ticket  
in the coming elections will vote to give  
himself hard labor and poor tucker.

There is no short cut to the social revo-  
lution. Each step can only be taken to-  
wards it by those who know where they  
are going.

So long as the workers read the same  
papers as the bankers, manufacturers, and  
monopolists, they will vote the same ticket  
and remain the slaves of their exploiters.

The worker who doesn't know that the  
capitalist press is run to mislead him is like  
a fly that cannot distinguish stickfast from  
honey.

Intelligent conversation to-day demands  
that a man or woman must have a know-  
ledge of Socialism. To gain such know-  
ledge it is necessary to study a Socialist  
book, or paper written by Socialists. It  
is impossible for the capitalist press to tell  
the truth about Socialism.

The worker who is ignorant is uncon-  
scious of his mental condition. Wake him  
up.

The average worker works too hard with  
his hands and not hard enough with his  
brain.

Lord Chelmsford, while Governor of  
New South Wales, attended a banquet at  
the Sydney Town Hall. In the galleries  
a big crowd were seated patiently watch-  
ing the banquetters' feast. The humor of  
the situation was not lost on Chelmsford,  
who, when it came to his turn to speak,  
facetiously remarked that he couldn't un-  
derstand why such a number were prepar-  
ed to pay 2s. 6d. each simply to see others

eating up the good things. When you  
come to think of it, it was curious, but our  
system prepares the majority not only to  
pay to see the few ornamental but useless  
ones feeding, but also to pay for the good  
things which they gobble up.

During the coming Federal elections  
thousands of workers will vote to put guns  
into the hands of thugs who will some fine  
day be ordered to "fire low and lay them  
out."

Behind the Cook and Fisher parties the  
man who has his eyes open may see the  
real ruler of all—the capitalist.

Early to bed and early to rise will make  
your boss healthy, wealthy and wise.—"Cot-  
ton's Weekly."

They tell us that capital is the stored up  
product of labor. It is carefully stored  
where labor, its producer, can't get at it.

Don't run after Joe Cook and Andy  
Fisher because they are "good men." The  
"good man" idea is exploded. Work to  
over throw the vicious capitalist system.

Some workers believe they are capitalists  
because they oppose Socialism and vote the  
capitalist ticket; but they are not. They  
are simply mugs.

The masters object to the class struggle  
being explained in the public streets, be-  
cause the toiler who doesn't know there is  
a struggle can be robbed without a struggle.

The man who doesn't work and yet is  
rich is honored by both Church and State.  
The toiler who doesn't work is condemned  
as a loafer.

The Socialist party is a weapon with  
which the workers fight the exploiters.  
The old parties are the snares which the  
rulers catch the mugs with when they want  
to utilize them.

The armament trust is world-wide and  
is busily engaged in boosting its business  
in all countries. Remember this when you  
see cunning articles and paragraphs in the  
press about defence, White Australia, and  
the yellow peril.

Man is the only creature that will suffer  
from want of food in the midst of plenty.

N.S.W. has a law to protect the people  
against adulterated food, but the papers are  
still allowed to sell adulterated news with-  
out restraint.

"The country is not developed on social-  
istic lines."—Joe Cook. No; there would  
be no Joe Cook at the head of affairs if it  
was.

King O'Malley, speaking at Goulburn,  
N.S.W., on July 17, said he was opposed  
to the defence system. It was a waste of  
money. In a few years the guns would be  
out of date and the boats on the scrap heap,  
but the debt went on. What was it for—  
merely to build up a military caste. He  
suggested that the guns should be taken  
out of the ships and the men put on land.  
The ships should be filled with produce, a  
band put on them, and then they should be  
sent to the Panama Exposition, China, and  
everywhere else to let the world see they  
were "white-winged missionaries of peace."  
Not a bad suggestion for an ex-Minister  
of a Labor government which went rabid  
on conscription and navy building.

A slump has occurred at the works of  
the Ford Motor Company at Detroit, Mich-  
igan, and the Company has decided to dis-  
miss—that is to drop—6,000 men. The  
New York "Times" tells how the slump has  
come about. It says: "This is the natural  
outcome of that feature of the Ford profit-  
sharing plan, which instituted a 24-hour  
day at the factory and an addition of 8,000  
men to the pay roll." In other words, this  
is the natural and usual result of the op-  
erations of our capitalist captains of indus-  
try. They glut the market in their race  
for profits, and then "drop" the workers  
into the abyss of unemployment and star-  
vation.

Professor R. F. Irvine, of Sydney Uni-  
versity, has written a book in which he

tells the blunt truth about the universities  
of Australia. He says they are delibera-  
tely ignorant, and keep their students in the  
dark as to the economic and social develop-  
ment of the world to-day. He says, speak-  
ing of the heads of the universities:

"Indeed, if report may be credited,  
they have viewed these subjects with  
suspicion and alarm as being likely to un-  
settle youthful minds, or to introduce  
the fury of controversy into the other-  
worldly calm of academic life."

This bears out the Socialist contention  
that the sources of all education are tainted  
and faked in the interests of the capitalist  
exploiters.

German financiers are lending Bul-  
garia £20,000,000 at 5 per cent. The loan  
is being issued at 84, so that the interest  
mongers will scoop nearly £200,000 out  
of the loan before they allow Bulgaria  
to commence paying 5 per cent. on the  
balance. It is undoubtedly a fine thing  
to be prepared for war, also for the debt,  
interest, and deformity which follow it.

"The minimum wage which I am author-  
ised to prescribe must be primarily based  
on the needs and the qualifications of the  
class of workers concerned, not on the af-  
fluence of the employer."—Justice Hig-  
gins. No matter what the employers' pro-  
fits are, the workers are only entitled to  
have in wages what will suffice to enable  
them to keep working. Such is compulsory  
arbitration.

The "Worker" cartoonist admits that  
the immigration bubble has burst, and  
the accommodation of ships bound to  
Europe is taxed to the limit. The Labor  
rag trots out the old gag of land mono-  
poly but never a word does it say of  
wage-slavery and the fact that indus-  
trial conditions here are just the same  
as in other countries, despite the exist-  
ence of the Labor Party.

A few months ago a French newspaper  
asked its readers to show by their votes  
who in their judgment was the greatest  
man who ever lived. Of course, only a  
Frenchman could win, but the critics who  
prophesied that Napoleon would be judged  
the greatest received a surprise when the  
returns came in. Napoleon was second, but  
Pasteur was first by many votes. The re-  
sult tells of receding militarism amongst  
the masses, and also of a fairly accurate  
appreciation of the relative value of the  
service rendered to mankind by the scientist  
and the slaughterer.

General interest has been excited  
throughout the United States by the action  
of the Louisville Council, Kentucky, in is-  
suing an ordinance forbidding negroes to  
invade the residential portion of the city  
occupied by white people. The ordinance  
also prohibits whites living in the negro  
quarters. The trouble has arisen from the  
fact that during recent years the negroes  
have progressed considerably in education  
and wealth, and have taken to buying up  
property in the better portions of the city.  
This is resented by the white population on  
the ground that the value of their property  
is depreciated by the intrusion of the blacks.  
The action of the Council seems to indi-  
cate that the dealers in land have captured  
the town and are taking the above step to  
keep up the price of land.

Thousands of working men in Aus-  
tralia are now shouting for the standard  
bearers of the Liberal and Labor par-  
ties. The candidates of both parties have  
in their platforms a few meaningless  
paragraphs as sop to the working class,  
but they are both pledged to uphold  
capitalism and wage-slavery. Both  
platforms uphold the profit system, and  
yet, thousands of working men and wo-  
men will march to the ballot-box next  
September to vote for a system that  
keeps them down. It is difficult to un-  
derstand the state of mind that admits of  
working men, who are fighting desper-  
ately in the industrial field against the  
tyranny of a master class, voting for  
political leaders who work to perpetuate  
a system which breeds the strike, the  
lockout, the unemployed, the blacklist,  
and the boycott.



## The International Socialist

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Write on paper not larger than letter-paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us fined for over-weight.

Mark the package "Press Matter Only," and address it "To the Editor."

Write briefly and clearly, as long and undecipherable articles stand no chance of publication.

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If your article is not published, do not conclude that it is because it is of no merit, for it may be simply owing to the fact that it is not in accordance with the above rules. Where possible, articles of importance should be type-written.

### During the Elections.

Keep clear of the poison of the Press. Let your grand old misleaders alone; It will pay you for your pains to educate your brains And do a little thinking of your own. —C. W. BECKETT.

## What is the Issue.

Those who are interested in Commonwealth politics will probably have noticed that there is likely to be "much ado about nothing" in the coming elections.

Joe Cook has a safe seat at Parramatta, where he can shout "no preference to unionists" to his heart's content, and Andy Fisher has an equally safe seat at Wide Bay, where his battle-cry will be "preference to unionists" until the numbers go up on election day, and he is declared elected.

Both political leaders will be elected, and most of their followers will be equally successful, and when it is all over the enthusiastic workers will be just about where they were before the campaign commenced.

Of course, there might be a slight alteration in the control of the Government. Andy may have more followers elected than Joe, in which case he will be Prime Minister, and his lieutenants will be Ministers with greater salaries than Joe and his backers have, but that will not materially alter the general result. After it is all over, things will be very much the same to the average worker, who will go to his usual toil for the same wages and for the usual number of hours a day.

The contest, we are told, will be a bitter one, but that it will not be about any live issue seems to be settled by the leaders of the two parties. The main bone of contention will be place and pay, and the contest will be very much like a horserace or a boxing match. When it is over some of the contestants will have won and some lost, while the barrackers who have been making most noise will be in the mass just as before.

Some say that preference to unionists will be the issue, but in the majority of constituencies this will not be so. Many constituencies are sure seats for those who shout for preference, and others will be just as sure for those who plump for no preference. In such places preference or no preference is a bogus issue and a good deal will be said about such things as the National Bank, White Australia, arbitration, maternity bonus, trusts and combines, nationalisation of monopolies, and a multitude of other things more or less confusing to the average worker.

Neither Liberals nor Laborites are unanimous as to what the main issue is to be. The Liberal press is squeaking loudly, but in many different keys, and the Laborite press is equally discordant. It is useless to quote the Liberal press,

for in the general din it is making anti-Labor is always the dominant note, but with the Labor press it is different. From the Labor press we are supposed to get the real goods, so a quote or two should disclose the position, and show what the issue is to be. The Australian "Worker" is very certain that the issue will be preference to unionists, and it concludes an article (16/7/14) by saying: "Unionists of Australia, and all lovers of industrial peace, be on your guard." But "Barrier Daily Truth" says that "preference to unionists is nothing more or less than a red Fusion herring being drawn across the political trail to try to misguide the easily led away from the main track, the pathway of progress along which Comrade Andrew Fisher desires to lead you." Queensland "Worker" is taking another road, and is making a general attack on trusts and combines. In an article (9/7/14) on the subject of the elections it asks: "Are the people of Australia prepared to go on forever tolerating the present economic system of handing over the trade and commerce of the country to Trusts and Combines in order that the few may grow rich at the expense of the many? For that is the avowed object of the Fusion." And the article concludes: "On September 5 the electors will have an opportunity of saying what our destiny will be."

The issue, so far as the Laborite press presents it, is shrouded in haze. Reading between the lines of the Liberal papers it is seen to be more definite and clean cut. With the Liberal papers the real issue is the class struggle every time and in this we heartily agree. Despite all the misleading shouting of the political captains, the real issue for the workers and their masters is the Class Struggle, necessitated and forced upon us by an economic system under which two sets of men are opposed to each as buyers and sellers of labor power.

In the coming political campaign the real issue will be kept in the background. Neither of the old parties dare speak of it, so that the elections will really be a fight between the two parties for place and pay. The question of preference to unionists will be magnified here and there but it is at best only a stalking horse—an election cry. Whether Liberals or Laborites are returned, the condition of the working class will be practically unchanged. Their sons will still be punished if they do not drill, and they themselves will be punished if they do not obey the arbitration court judges appointed by the capitalists.

### THE I.W.W.

A good deal of attention is just now focussed upon the I.W.W. The recent Free Speech victory achieved by the organisation in Port Pirie, and the battle in Sydney to maintain freedom to sell literature in the Domain on Sundays have set the multitude thinking along certain lines.

In another column we publish the original preamble of the I.W.W. with the universal label of the organisation, but in doing so, to prevent confusion, it will be as well to inform readers that there are two sections of the I.W.W., one of which declares for political action, and the other against. The preamble published in this issue is the original one, and is adhered to by the section that believes in both industrial and political action as means to obtain the emancipation of the working class.

Like all solid movements, the progress of the Detroit or original I.W.W. has been slow. A club was formed some years ago in Sydney, and a good deal of educational work was done in preparing the way for industrial unionism, but no attempt has been made to form a separate union, the members preferring to work within the existing craft unions until the time arrives when they become educated and class-conscious enough to adopt the I.W.W. principles and organise as industrial unions.

The Chicago body, on the other hand, holds the craft unions and parliaments in contempt, and preaches "direct action" and "sabotage" as means to attain its object—the emancipation of labor and the overthrow of capitalism. In accordance with this view, it has formed a separate union—"the one big union"—and is fighting along its own lines. So far, it has the win at Port Pirie to its credit, and is now engaged in a battle for the right to sell literature in the Sydney Domain—a right which has been enjoyed by other bodies without interference for years.

These two different tactics are full of interest for sociological students, and no doubt the effect of both lines of action will be watched with interest by all who are interested in the labor movement. In the long run, unity of all the different revolutionary bodies in the Common-

## Industrial Notes.

By TAFFY.

The Maitland miners' position remains much the same as previously. The kind of unionism that holds sway in the Trades Hall may be imagined, when it is remembered that the Labor Council has not yet turned its hand to helping the miners. Of course the fact that the miners are not affiliated with that body is one reason for its virulent opposition to the clear working-class path of duty. But the reactionary ideas of the executive of the council are quite sufficient to account for its attitude.

Meanwhile Davy Watson has made a serious blunder in engaging in controversy with George Waite. George's worst enemy would hardly like to doubt his word. No wonder Watson is rattled when he reflects—if he ever does—upon the poor figure he cuts politically. The men he is supposed to act the father toward—according to the old idea of union "leaders"—he dare not help openly for fear of jail! A strong man fired with the wrongs of his class would do one of two things: resign the Senate candidature and battle for the men at risk of liberty, or get out of the union presidency and let a sturdier man take the job. But the race of working-class heroes of the old days seems to have died out. Arbitration and politics have killed them apparently—those that remain are sneered at as "red ragers" by Kavanagh of the Trades Hall and other clingers-to-job-at-all-costs.

The said Kavanagh indulges in spiteful remarks at industrial unionism in his annual report. Such union misleaders are terribly frightened that the "common mob" of unionists will learn too much if they hear the doctrines of working class solidarity preached as they are bound to be under the industrial union organisation! William Mug, the only way for you to understand the tortuous operations of the minds of these men is to read the simple literature of Socialism. Once do that and you will be able to see through them like a pane of glass.

Boot employers threaten to put up the price of boots because the employers have been granted a rise in wages. They say nothing of the master tanners' little joke about putting up the price of leather recently. All the same the manufacturers say that their business is likely to suffer owing to the increased price—that it will pay to import boots in spite of the duty! Billy Mug, just stop and think a minute. What will happen to your wages boards when this occurs and the employers go to the arbitration court and say they are losing money because the boards have raised wages too high? Why the boards will reduce wages! Yes, and when you agreed to arbitration you agreed not to strike. Don't you see the trap you walked into when you rushed like a fool to arbitrate as to how much the boss should rob you of?

It is funny to hear the Amalgamated Railway Employees talking about industrial unionism when they have carried a motion against sympathetic strikes. What do they mean anyhow? If they will carry scabs to the end of the earth to defeat their brother unionists, who have the manliness to resist oppression, they are no good to anyone, but are a union of blacklegs and strikebreakers acting unitedly against their comrades.

The N.S.W. Works Department, according to the Secretary of the Railway Workers, treats its laborers worse than any private employer dare do. What kind of a labor man is Griffith? It seems that a few Trades Hall officials are finding out that the Lib-Lab party is not a Labor party at all. Dooley's weak reply to the castigation he got from the Shop Assistants lately is another straw showing which way blows the political wind. My, won't there be an exodus from the alleged Labor party when the rank and file find them out!

Hotel Employees are threatening to get the puts brought under the Early Closing Act. This union has always taken sides with the bosses on political questions affecting the trade. A revolt is badly wanted.

wealth may come about, but in the meantime, criticism of each other will be unavoidable, because on both sides there are men and women who are full of enthusiasm and energy in the propagation of their beliefs.

As for us, we intend to continue our educational propaganda towards revolution. Between the Laborites who emphasise political action, and the Industrial Unionists who over-emphasise industrialism, there is a wide gap. We believe that both have gone off the handle, that they are very young and green organisations, composed of men and women of one idea, which is not based on broad generalisations and scientific truth.

The preamble of the Detroit or Socialist I.W.W. appears to us to embody the more scientific tactic, and, therefore, best calculated to educate the craft unionist and the political laborite.

Experience is the only thing that can teach the poor, simple, trusting employees that the interests of the boss are not the same as those of the workers. A Socialist learns this as part of the A B C of Socialism, but William Mug, who sneers at the Socialist, has to learn it from hard knocks.

### Trying to Get on the Land.

The N.S.W. Government recently offered two Homestead farms to intending settlers in the Wagga district and the result was interesting in its bearing on the need for immigration "and" filling up our empty spaces gaga of the labor government and land sharks in its following. There were 743 applications lodged for the two farms, and in the ballot which ensued two only were successful and 741 had to go landless. This sort of thing is happening all over the country and would be farmers find it as hard to get on the land as it is for them to get back to Europe or America. Still the land agents are squeaking for population and Holman and Joe Cook respond to the call with lying advertisements in European papers.

### National Cant.

Every nation and every race, no doubt, has some element of cant in its ideas and customs, but we are certain that for deliberate, solemn cant—largely unconscious perhaps at times, the "Anglo-Saxon" communities come out an easy first. We British are bad enough, but we are afraid in many instances we must give place to our "cousins" across the Atlantic. They are just now giving us a magnificent exhibition of it in regard to Mexico. The yellow Press is blaming Huerta for atrocities real or alleged, while all the brutal horrors of a most bloodthirsty civil war are being perpetrated in Colorado. Strikers and State Militia are fighting each other far more fiercely than the Americans and Mexicans are likely to do. Machine guns are being used by the Militia, and women and children have suffered from their fire. And all because, according to Congressman Geating, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Senior, will not say a word that would terminate the trouble, but shifts the responsibility on to the shoulders of Mr. John D. Rockefeller Junior.

### Submarines vs. Dreadnoughts.

The cabled rumors that the last British naval manoeuvres had to be abandoned because of the damage dealt out by the submarines are now confirmed by files of English papers to hand. The invisible craft defeated and annihilated fleets, leaving not a single Admiral afloat. Coming on top of Sir Percy Scott's announcement that the submarine must render battleships useless, the result of the manoeuvres must be a shock to the armament firms. In spite of the fact that the creatures of the War Trust are strongly entrenched in Church and State, the monster is being destroyed by the march of invention, and the cheap aeroplane and submarine are destroying even the faith of naval men in the Dreadnought. The Dreadnought is already a misnomer, for the little submarine is able to give a Dreadnought's crew the jumps.

### When a Wage-Slave Wakes.

When a wage-slave wakes to the fact that he is robbed and enslaved, all the preachers of the churches, all the flabby-mouthed politicians, all the police, the military, the judges and boot-licking papers, will never be able to take the knowledge from him again. They will never again succeed in soothing him with the old chloroforming methods. Therefore, you rebels, who are awake, spread the knowledge broadcast that in Australia there is a thieving gang going round in fine clothes, living in palaces, and being treated as the salt of the earth, the supermen of the race. By so doing you undermine the power and prestige of those who rule but to prey.

### Psalm 84 Up-to-date.

Joe Cook's Version.  
BY J. W. R.

1. How amiable are thy tabernacles, Oh Employers' Federation!
2. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Boss: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the sweets of office.
3. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, and so have I, O Boss Capitalism, my King, and my God.
4. Blessed are they that get back to the House. They will be shrill praising thee. Selah!
5. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee, O Boss: in whose heart are ways like thine.
6. Who passeth through an election sound and well; and with lies fillets the fools.
7. They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Parliament appeareth for the Boss.
8. O Boss, thou Boss of hosts, hear my prayer, Give ear, O God of Profits. Selah!
9. Behold, O Boss, our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.
10. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand in the mine. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of the Boss, than to dwell in the huts of the workers.
11. For the Lord-Boss is a sun, and shield, the Boss will give place and glory; no good thing will be withheld from them that do his dirty work, and do it sprightly.
12. O Lord Boss of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.



## Karl Kautsky

### On the High Cost of Living.

By Frank Bohn.

Some well-known Socialist writers and speakers in the United States have made the error of repeating, without taking thought, a very popular misconception. They have been declaring for many years that high prices have been due to the "bad" trusts. Hence the very natural middle class conclusion (which the Socialist writers hardly intended to come to) that if the trusts were destroyed prices would fall. This blunder in economics is dangerous, because it leads directly to blunders in the tactics of the Socialist party and of the labor unions. The worker feels the pinch of a lowering standard of living not when he receives his wages, but when he spends them. The best digested statistics indicate that the prices of the commodities which the workers' families must purchase have risen during fifteen years, on the average, about fifty per cent. This equals a cut in wages of 33 1-3 per cent. for every worker in the land. No wonder that among the vast majority, unlearned in economics, there is this fierce outcry against high prices. They might as well, when it rains through the roof, blame the elements or curse the weather department instead of mending the roof.

So, to our whole American movement, the translation and publication of Comrade Kautsky's little volume entitled "The High Cost of Living" is a service of the greatest importance. Some of us, indeed, have tried to do our humble part in mitigating the evil of populist economics in this connection. We have urged that the Marxian theory of value and prices was quite sufficient to explain current economic tendencies. But those who have taken the opposite view have among them comrades of the widest influence in the party. Attention is here directed to the researches and conclusions of Kautsky in the hope that they will work mightily in the task of driving petty-bourgeois economics out of the literature and petty-bourgeois tactics out of the councils of the Socialist party.

Kautsky's work is divided into four parts:

- (I.) Simple production of commodities.
- (II.) Capitalistic method of production.
- (III.) The circulation of money.
- (IV.) Increase in prices and poverty.

In the first part Kautsky throws the Marxian theory of value into clear relief in connection with the whole matter of money and prices.

A man works for a day in his own bake-shop. He takes his day's baking of bread to the market and trades it for cloth. No great cleverness is required to comprehend that, under average conditions, there will be an even exchange of labor-time. When money (which is a mere commodity) enters into the transaction the matter is made more complex, but is not materially changed. The baker takes his bread to the market and trades it for a day's production of gold. He then takes the gold and buys a day's production of cloth. That is all. When the amount of labor-time required to produce an ounce decreases, an ounce of gold falls in value and therefore in price. When an ounce of gold can be produced only by the expenditure of more labor-time (through the working of low-grade ores) it rises in value and in price. That is, since it will take more labor, more time to produce the gold, it will require more cloth or more bread to exchange for a like amount of gold. But gold being the measure of value, the one commodity in which prices are commonly stated, its own fluctuations in value are not generally noted. Yet those very fluctuations are the cause of a general rise in the prices of all other commodities.

There is a further reason why increased production of gold, whether or not its labor cost is lessened, has a tendency to cause a rise in prices. This effect Kautsky states most succinctly:

"For example, suppose it is possible by means of gold discoveries, to double the production of gold in the same mines with an equal expenditure of labor, in stead of one hundred thousand pounds (140,000,000 marks), 200,000 pounds a year.

"Productivity in other branches remains the same, therefore the amount of commodities for the market does not grow in proportion to the amount of gold. The demand for commodities, therefore, grows stronger than the supply. The prices for commodities, therefore necessarily rise, even if there is not the least change in the disposition of the social labor forces.

"How high the prices will rise is, however, not solely fixed by the yearly in-

crease in the production of gold. We have seen that the additional demand for commodities arising through every increase is dependent upon many varying conditions in the circulation of commodities.

"In the extreme cases which we have taken, that the productivity of gold production is suddenly doubled, there will arise a violent new demand for commodities, which cannot be satisfied at the old prices. Every commodity which comes into the market can find a buyer as the circulation of commodities is accelerated, but thereupon also the demand for commodities is still further increased in proportion to the newly furnished increase in the amount of gold.

"The result will be a doubling of the prices of commodities. If this is not so, gold-production will have a particular power of attraction for the labor-force of society. The gold digger could then buy for the product of an hour's labor more than the product of an hour's labor. He would have to work less hard than the laborers in other pursuits in order to live as well, or he could live better with the same expenditure of labor-power. So that numbers of workers in other branches of industry would leave these and take to gold mining. That means that under given conditions the production of commodities would be limited, and that of gold increased still further. Again, the demand for commodities would be increased until workers in the gold mines cannot live any better than those in other branches of labor and until the compelling force to gold digging ceases, that is, until with the product of one hour's labor the product of one hour's labor can be bought, and the law of values has been realized" (pp. 25-6).

In Chapter II. Kautsky takes up the effect of the production of gold upon prices under the capitalist method of production. Here we have the entrance into the scheme of things of that governing flywheel, the bank. Comrade Varga, in an article in the "Neue Zeit" had declared that certain current developments in the banking system have been responsible for the rise in prices. It is against this error that the argument of Comrade Kautsky is quite often directed. Varga's main contention seems to have been that "Changes in the production of gold do not automatically operate to produce changes in the value of gold. Because the control banks corner all the gold which comes into the world market, no lowering of the value of gold can take place." This is the primary argument of what may be called the anti-gold theory of rising prices. The view that capitalists "corner" the commodities and thus effect a rise in prices is urged by scores of popular Socialist writers in America. But none has ever attempted to find a general theory upon which to base this whimsicality. Varga attempts to supply one. The biggest trust, the credit trust, having "cornered" the gold supply is enabled thus to overthrow the law of value which, under the system of simple production, controls the use of gold as money.

This theory Kautsky totally demolishes by a simple statement of the vast difference between the technical hoarding of gold and its economic hoarding. Technically the banks have gold—there it is in the safety vaults. But economically they have much less than none at all. Modern business is done on credit. The basis of credit is gold. Every dollar of gold in the banks is doing business many times over as paper money. Thus at the end of the year 1910 the Bank of England had 151,000,000 dollars of gold, while its note circulation amounted to 241,000,000 dollars; for the Bank of France the figures were, respectively, 633,000,000 and 1,024,000,000 dollars; for the Bank of Germany 159,000,000 and 391,000,000 dollars; and for the Bank of Austria-Hungary 267,000,000 dollars and 477,000,000 dollars.

"The mass of gold declines not absolutely but relatively; the scope of the circulation of commodities can grow more rapidly and does grow more rapidly than the mass of money. The economic effect of the existing mass of gold will be increased, and thereby the impetus towards demand which every additional mass of gold lends to the production and circulation of commodities is strengthened. . . . The rapidity of the circulation of goods takes place as a result of increased gold production, not in opposition to it. It works in harmony with and intensifies its tendencies" (pp. 68-9).

The capitalist tendency, therefore, is not to hoard as much as possible, but to hoard as little as possible—to conduct the greatest possible amount of credit business upon the least possible amount of capital of any and all kinds.

The positive argument of Kautsky is quickly stated. A chart opposite p. 54 of the English translation tells the tale

so that all but the hopelessly dull can comprehend. This chart should be carefully studied in connection with the table of the average prices of staples printed on pp. 57-8. The line of gold production from 1800 to 1850 runs almost horizontally at from 12,000 to about 40,000 kilograms, annually. Then comes the discovery of gold in California and Australia. By 1855 it is 200,000 kilograms. Meanwhile the prices of staples (the norm being 100) rose from 112 in 1849 to 152 in 1855. In 1890 the annual production of gold was slightly less than in 1855. Commodity prices have fallen to 108. To hold prices up there would have been required an increasing production of gold commensurate with the world's colossal increase in population and economic production. In 1890 came the cyanide process and the consequent cheapening of gold. In 1898 460,000 kilograms were produced. But there was a world-wide depression of business from 1893 to 1897, a world-wide stringency so profound and of such duration as to break up the whole regime of the world market. Therefore, for a few years, prices fell despite the cheapening of gold. But the depression could not last forever. The natural effect of cheap gold on prices was operative as soon as it ceased. And still the amount of gold production continued to soar. In 1898 came Yukon. The close of the Boer war again opened the gold mines of South Africa, and in the first years of the new century came Goldfield. In 1910 seven hundred thousand kilograms of gold were mined. Prices went up until the workers were in despair.

The only hope, of course, was to organize and strike for higher wages. But the great army of the unskilled has been almost totally unorganized. The organized skilled workers raised their wages in many trades as much as the prices of staples were raised. This was the natural tendency where the wage market was under control. Among the unorganized there was an actual decrease in real wages as great as the rise in prices. This whole matter of the lowering of the standard of living of the American unskilled wage-worker I shall discuss in a future article in the "New Review."

It might be supposed that the observation of the most simple facts would prevent any great misunderstanding of this whole matter. The clothing industry has not been trifled with, yet the prices of clothing rose as did those of Standard Oil products and stock. Potatoes are produced on some 5,000,000 farms. Yet the price of potatoes rose with that of Steel Trust Stock and farming machinery. There are practically no trusts in Great Britain and none at all in China. Yet the rise in prices affected the markets in those countries as it did those of the United States.

Of course an absolute monopoly can cause a rise in prices. The possible effect of this fact I pointed out in an introduction to an edition of "Value, Price and Profit" published eight years ago. But the conditions therein taken for granted have never yet come to pass in a single industry.

Kautsky's conclusions are most interesting. The high prices and the resulting keen industrial enterprise having everywhere followed the great production of gold, we are now, due to a falling off in gold production, to suffer a period of falling prices and general industrial retrenchment. Kautsky wrote before the present industrial depression had set in. His clearness of vision in the matter has already been proven.

In America the various sponsors for the different exploiting groups are pointing fingers at one another and urging their own nostrums. The Socialist party may be, if it will, equipped with both an understanding of conditions and a programme which will help to abolish the causes of those conditions. Prices will fall. Unemployment will increase. The workers will again, as in 1893-7, become bitter in spirit and this time they will be ready to adopt revolutionary measures. If our party arms itself with the facts which Kautsky so clearly sets before us it may confidently conclude with him that "We may confidently enter upon the conflict which the new era of capitalism has for us, in which no rapid addition to gold production can longer interfere with the sharpening of class antagonisms, in which capitalism extends its domain only at the expense of the growing misery of the mass of the population, and the latter is more and more compelled to cause the overthrow of the capitalist system on pain of its own destruction."

William Mug is a voter bold,  
He loves to be tricked and skinned and sold,  
So he goes to the poll as he did before,  
And votes to be tricked and sold some more.

When you have read this paper hand it to a friend.

### FROM THE STRIKE CAMP AT BROADWATER.

After 13 months' fight among the slaves and cossaks in Brisbane. I have jumped right out of the frying pan into the fire. I was persecuted along with other comrades by the despotic and czar-government of "Beautiful Queensland," as Father Denham, the workers' friend calls it, for the right of free speech. A handful of militant men put up a fight that will live in the history of Australia. The so-called Direct Actionists in the shape of the Labor Party and Trade Unionists were too cowed to fight for freedom and bent at the knees. Of course they will come out and try and skite about their solidarity that doesn't exist. The only men who were true working-class fighters were the Brisbane branch of Socialists. The Comrades also came to the front in the Bakers' fight for day-baking. Their little efforts were the means of removing a little clot of blood on the brain of some of the slaves. The movement and a few Comrades was the power that made me a rebel, and I am more than thankful I made for Brisbane. I left Brisbane behind two weeks ago and came on to the N.S.W. Northern Rivers. The slaves here were discontented and refused to sign the agreement for starvation wages. The consequence was that the parasites had no men to make a profit for them. The camp is becoming a Socialist Party instead of a strike camp. Mr. Hughes and myself are right up to our necks in it, and what with the "Socialist" papers supplied by the A.W.U., we are doing good work and made a lot of converts. I have succeeded in removing the cataracts from the workers' eyes and got them to understand their position in society. You can be sure I will advertise the party and push the cause along. It is surprising to see how the capitalists are trying sabotage to gull the workers into submission, but we are using the sabotage against them. All the Tory papers are in tears and dealing out tripe a mile long in hopes that the workers will grab it. Hughes of the I.W.W. and myself will take line care that the slaves keep away from the "Nets." Any papers sent here will be appreciated by the men and do good work. Wishing the paper every success, and kind greetings to all comrades.

GEORGE HENRY.

### APPLIED QUOTATIONS.

"Peace, peace, when there is no peace"—with the class struggle in force and the War Trust in full blast.

"Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?" No, only a number of political quacks.

"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?" No, but the modern profit maker can change both for hard cash.

"And their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel," and the Mugs of the day, didn't know it.

"Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting"—thou fat, sleek, labor skinner!

"I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils"—you warmongers and militarists.

"They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"—after Socialism is established.

"But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig-tree"—in the Co-operative Commonwealth.

"Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run, that readeth it," and tell the glad tidings of Socialism to others.

"The sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in his wings," when Capitalism is abolished.

"Judge not that ye be not judged" by judges appointed by the master class.

"Neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you." No, do your propaganda amongst workers who show an inclination to think.

"For the worker is worthy of his meat"—only. So sayeth the Capitalist as he screws wages a peg lower.

"Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh"—against the folly of continuing the present system.

"For whosoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together"—just like a lot of stockjobbers at a banquet.

"Ye blind guides! which strain at a gnat and swallow a camel"—when defending the present system against Socialism.

"Take thine ease, drink, and be merry"—thou foolish producer who produceth most and enjoyeth least.



## READ THE "INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST"

Because it is written by the workers for the workers. Its columns are filled with articles that affect the welfare of the working class the world over.

The "International Socialist" exists to constantly and fearlessly expose the robbery of labor and the social shams of the present system.

In its columns the canting humbug of the churches is satirised.

The tricks of deceitful politicians are exposed.

The hypocrisy of Labor leaders who lie in wait for a chance to climb on the backs of the workers to place and power, is denounced.

In its columns will be found the truth regarding the cause of social evils and the futility of political tinkering.

It carries a message of hope and courage to the dark places where labor is exploited.

It brings greetings and encouragement from comrades in other lands to all who are engaged in the great battle for the economic freedom of the working class.

It stands for the international solidarity of the working class, and preaches the overthrow of nationalism, racial hatred, bogus patriotism, and capitalism.

It is a real live, revolutionary paper for slaves who desire freedom. It will give you a new outlook, life, hope, and vitality.

The "International Socialist" is a factor in the greatest movement of all time—the Socialist movement, and is posted to any address in Australia for 1s. per quarter, 2s. per half year, or 4s. per year.

Address all communications to the Managing-Editor, and make all Money Orders, etc., payable to him.

Published weekly at 115 Goulburn-st., Sydney, N.S.W.

## Maitland Miners and Sydney Labor Council.

Since the note on the laggardness of the Labor Council, was written by "Tally" and printed in another column, the Council has awakened to the gravity of the situation up north and has decided to help the miners in their present battle against the coal barons. Readers who are interested in this affair will watch the operations of the Council with interest.

## Karl Kautsky and the High Cost of Living.

The article on the above subject, reprinted in this issue from the New Review, is especially valuable to the Socialist party of the Commonwealth just now when the old parties are blaming each other for the increasing prices, and belogging their dupes with floods of ignorant nonsense on the subject. Socialist propagandists will do well to bring the facts set forth in the article before the rank and file of the duped class.

## Topical Tattle.

How Holman's Stamp Act works: The stamp duty on the transfer of a suburban piece of land valued at £44 costs 25/-; under the old Act, 5/-—400 per cent. The wealthy investor, on a piece of land valued at, say, £3,000, pays £21; and paid under the old Act, £20—an increase of 5 per cent. 'Tis a case of save us from our friends, the enemy.

Two of the large sugar companies have reduced the price of their sugar by 10s. per ton. About the nineteenth part of a penny per pound! When this stupendous reduction is allowed Mrs. Householder, she can save it up to buy shares with in the said sugar companies.

There is a system in vogue on the Tramway Per. Way Staff, whereby laborers are called upon to do overtime, Sundays, and nightwork, without extra pay. For instance, a man will do his 8 hours, and is then allowed to go off for several hours, after which he does another eight hours' work. The second shift is sandwiched in between the regular ones, and is overtime pure and simple. But no pay is forthcoming for that—the Department cuts it by telling the workman to have time off equivalent to the extra number of hours worked! And we must shout hooray! for the friends of Labour comfortably seated in Parliament!

If the way in which many hotels in the city and suburbs have been re-built and renovated lately is any criterion then the business of various Demijohns are paying handsomely.

A "Herald" correspondent says, "A farmer now allows his employee the use of his house to read at night." Let us add: And he also allows him to sleep in the barn with the fowls, some cornbogs to hide his nakedness with; and all the time the unfortunate employee gets to read is practically nil.

"Nothing could be done until Labour got the Governor under their thumb. When they got a rubber-stamp Governor to serve their purpose it would be all right."—Senator Rae. Wrong! There should be no Governor to serve any political party; and Labour may depend on it that there will never be an imported Governor to serve their aims.

The most powerful battleship in the world, with a tonnage of 30,000, is now being built in England, while the German new battle-cruiser, "Seydlitz," will de-

velop 80,738 propeller horse-power — a world's record. We're obliged to the editor for this information, for it affords some fine food for thought, and out of deference to us they might christen the 30,000 tonner "Jokook."

It seems as though a number of limited liability companies are watering their stock lately by the issue of fresh shares. The morning sanitary papers would have us believe that capital has girded up his loins and gone for a strip to Mars, but we can't accept their claims.

We anticipated it! While Judge Higgins is away, a disgruntled Fat Hog said recently, in effect: "The employers of the country view his (Higgins') handling of industrial affairs not only with suspicion and distrust, but also with grave apprehension." Such an attack on one of the Arbitration Judges is worthy of the source from which it emanated.

The Irish Home Rule Bill now before the British Parliament well illustrates to what length a party will go to hang on to office; and what devious devices it will adopt to attain that end.

In giving evidence before a Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, the headmaster of Eton and Harrow Colleges agreed that sex instruction ought to be given children by their parents. Unfortunately this instruction has been withheld too long, owing principally to the ideas of false modesty held by a large number of parents, who, if they carried out their parental duties correctly, would prevent much misery and suffering to their offspring, and many of those with whom the latter came in contact.

From 1883 to 1913, the area under cultivation in the United Kingdom has decreased by 1,000,000 acres! Thus we have the effect of the land being held by a few to the detriment of the many. F.M.

## A.S.P. News &amp; Notes.

## AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production Distribution and Exchange.  
General Secretary: J. W. ROCHE.  
Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.

The Administrative Council will meet at Headquarters on Sat. July 25. All delegates are urged to attend.

J. W. ROCHE.

## SYDNEY BRANCH.

The event of the past week was the opening of the new hall on Friday, July 17.

Despite the deluge, which continued during the afternoon and evening, every chair in the hall was occupied and a large number had to stand. The Chairman, Comrade Winspear, editor of the "International Socialist," opened with a few remarks, after which vocal selections were rendered by the L. S. Liedertafel, Mr. Cooper, and Comrade Schwartz. Comrade Nelson contributed a couple of musical monologues which were much appreciated. Mick Paul delighted the audience with lightning sketches, caricature of Comrade Slade being specially applauded. At the piano Frank Harrison acquitted himself well as accompanist and soloist.

Speeches appropriate to the occasion were delivered by Coms. Roche, Slade, Jones and Mrs. Paul. A dance wound up a very pleasant evening for all concerned. Now Comrades you must make this venture a success.

All unattached Socialists are invited to join the Party and participate in its growing activities.

Sundays meeting in the Domain was largely attended Comrade Nelson acted as chairman in an able manner. Comrades Slade, McArthur, Radolph, and Mrs. Paul delivered the revolutionary matter after the usual manner.

In the evening the outdoor meetings lapsed through the continual rain. In the hall a large number turned up to hear Comrade Roche who spoke upon Scientific Socialism and Frank Socialism. The lecture was well appreciated, an interesting and useful discussion arising out of the various points of the address. Comrade Nelson displayed his histrionic ability in a monologue entitled "Not Understood." Mrs. Paul presided at the piano and Comrade Slade occupied the chair.

## Branch Fixtures.

Friday, July 24. A dance will be held in the hall 369 Pitt-St. admission by ticket. Gents 1s. Ladies Complimentary.

Sunday, July 26. Meeting in the Domain 3 p.m. Sunday evening in the hall at 8 p.m. Comrade Slade will lecture on "Experience."

Sunday, August 2. Mrs. Paul. Watch the paper for announcements. Luke Jones, Sec.

## MELBOURNE BRANCH, A.S.P.

## Half Yearly Report.

Hello! Here we are again, still alive and kicking as a branch, despite the fact that enemies of our movement have devoutly prayed for our failure, others schemed for our downfall, and an occasional individual (since our branch came into existence) turned traitor.

Still alive, say we, yes, very much alive; so much so that we have made the pace a cracker from the standpoint of increased propaganda activity, increased literature sales, and increased activity generally.

During the past six months, 64 propaganda meetings have been held, 9 meetings more than the previous six months, and most of them in the highways and bye-ways of wowsy and capitalist-ridden Melbourne.

To branches in other parts of the world with double or treble the number of speakers, this may not seem a great deal, but when it is borne in mind that a few speakers have gone out, and held forth in all sorts of weather, and that as a result of their efforts 64 meetings have been held, is a good indication that our branch is composed of whole-hearted, earnest, revolutionists.

As a result of increased propaganda activity, and an increasing interest on the part of Melbourne wage-slaves in our meetings, coupled with the excellent work of Comrades Speers and Lazarus, literature sales boast an increase of £10 10s. over the previous half-year, this making our literature sales the largest in the history of our branch.

A new branch of activity has been made possible as a result of the enthusiasm of several comrades; this is the A.S.P. Athletic Club, whose honorary and energetic Secretary, is Comrade Alf Crosbie.

Every Thursday evening club members meet, and are instructed in boxing, wrestling, and other athletic exercises done on trapeze and flying rings.

Such is the interest taken in the club, that though only a few months in existence, it boasts a membership of 35 earnest socialists, who recognise the value of physical culture, as well as Socialist propaganda, and the truth of the old saying, viz., "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

Valuable work of a varied character has also been done by an army of comrades whose names are too numerous to mention, work such as distributing thousands of leaflets advertising lectures, preparing refreshments for socials and dances, selling tickets for same, making flags, and a large painted sign for Yarra Bank meetings, the latter advertising literature, headquarters and branch activities. Work generally speaking of a technical and laborious character, and in which both women and men members have taken part, to their credit, and the benefit of the branch.

The financial report for the half year just closed boasts a total income of £227 2s. 3d., and an expenditure amounting to £224 13s. 1d., leaving a balance in hand of £2 9s. 2d.

Comparing the financial report for the half year just closed, with the previous half-yearly financial report, it will be seen there is an increase in income of £2 9s. 8d., and this despite the slight fall in dance attendances which was a feature of our dances for a few weeks.

Assets amount to £134 3s. 2d., liabilities £100 13s. 3d., an increase in assets of £3 12s. 10d., and a decrease in liabilities of £2 18s. 2d.

In connection with branch liabilities, be it noted that £100 13s. is owing for piano, which is paid for at 5s. per week, worth that easily from a hire standpoint. Pressing liabilities are, therefore, of a trifling character, and ought to be easily wiped out with a little extra effort.

Much more could be written as to meetings addressed by branch speakers, the splendid solidarity of branch membership, etc., but the above will suffice.

The following are the officers elected for the ensuing six months: Secretary, J. R. Wilson; hon. sec., Ada Gardiner; literature sec., M. Lazarus; librarian, W. Berndt; auditors, Max Szepanski and Ada Gardiner; treasurer, A. Crosbie; executive, Mary McEellan, W. Berndt, Jessie McDonald, C. Hulbert, and R. Xarons. Trustees as formerly, Mrs. Nicholson and A. Rooney.

And now a word as to the future of our branch, one thing is certain, given the enthusiasm of the past, an increase in membership, and more propagandists, our activities can be increased, and much done that at present remains undone.

Further, no stone should be left unturned by comrades to make known our principles and policy as a branch, and to explain to all enquiring wage-slaves the fact that we are the only home-made branch of the political socialist movement with headquarters in Victoria.

If all members therefore resolve to put their shoulder to the wheel by doing some work in connection with the branch when opportunity affords, work such as selling of literature, attending more regularly all lec-

tures and business meetings, including workmates and friends to attend propaganda meetings, and in numerous other ways taking part in branch activities, there is no reason why we should not, as a branch, be in a doubly strong position at the end of another six months.

"So, all together."

It grows, it grows—are we the same

The feeble hand, the few?

Or what are these with eyes aflame,

And hands to deal and do?

This is the host that bears the word,

No Master, High or Low.

A lightning flame, a shearing sword,

A storm to overthrow.

J. R. WILSON.

Secretary,  
A.S.P. Hall,  
47 Victoria-street,  
Melbourne.

## BRISBANE.

One of the best audiences we have had for a long period assembled in our rooms last Sunday evening to hear debated the question, "Should Socialists support the Labor party?" Mr. Dunn, a member of the Metropolitan Labor Speakers' Association, very ably put the case for the affirmative. Mr. Dunn is totally blind. Despite such a handicap he proved a worthy debater. His arguments, though rehearsed, could not stand against the facts of experience. Labor in power, especially in New South Wales, demonstrated clearly the necessity for a truly militant working-class organisation. That organisation was the Australian Socialist Party. Such a party must not ally itself with that petty bourgeois political expression known as the Labor party—at least, that's what the majority of our audience thought last Sunday night.

Next Sunday, Andrew Anderson will lecture on the "Platform of the Labor Party." We are advertising this, and calling on all Laborites to attend and refute the arguments of our comrade. At our last business meeting it was decided to write all comrades out of town and inform them that we purpose taking up the cudgels again in an endeavor to win Free Speech. The time is opportune, and it only a hearty response as given, we should win out. I have written the Sydney L.W.W. concerning this matter; also have congratulated them on their successful fight in Port Pirie. If only such an effort was made here a few short weeks would see Free Speech established. The branch wishes every success to Comrade Paul in her effort.

GORDON BROWN.

## NEWTOWN.

On Saturday night Comrades Page, Jackson, and Mrs. Paul, Federal Candidate for Cook, held a good meeting though it was somewhat short by a downpour of rain.

Comrade Everett has opened a fund to raise the £25 deposit for Mrs. Paul's candidature, and comrades and sympathisers are invited to send donations to him, to 115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.

This is the barrier raised by the old parties, the Labor and the Labor, to keep the Socialists from running for parliament. Help us to break it down by running those who will denounce the fakirs who support and maintain it.

W. J. Page, Sec.



## Preamble of the Industrial workers of the World.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace as long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until all the tools come together on the political as well as on the industrial field, and take and hold that which they produce by their labor through an economic organization of the working class without affiliation with any political party.

The rapid gathering of wealth and the strengthening of the management of industry into fewer and fewer hands make trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class because the trades union fosters a state of things which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. The trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These sad conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

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